Directors - Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center

A new fifteen member Board of Directors was recently named to manage and promote the development of Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center, Inc. Pictured left to right (1st row) are W. M. Keffer, Appomattox Extension Office member; Gordon L. Baldwin, Buckingham; Shirley Walton, Appomattox; Robert R. Feagans, Amherst; Preston R. Willson, Lynchburg, (2nd row) Don Jimison, Center Director, Appomattox; Kenneth E. Dawson, Director 4-H at Virginia Tech; William E. Green, Charlotte; Hughes C. Swain, Nelson; Mrs. W. Goode Robinson, Lynchburg; Charles A. Elliott, District Program Leader, 4-H, Appomattox; (3rd row) Alvin Thomas, Jr., Mecklenburg; Ben Marshall, Prince Edward; Elmer T. Clay, Nottoway; S. D. Land, Mecklenburg. Not pictured are Mrs. Ocie Mack, Lynchburg; Dr. C. G. O'Brien, Appomattox; Dr. Earl H. McClenny, Brunswick; and Roie M. Godsey, Charlottesville.

Schools Of Bygone Days

The following article concerning Appomattox County Schools in the past was written for the **TIMES-VIRGINIAN** by Harriett A. Chilton, a charter member of the Appomattox County Historical Society.

The list of schools below was found in a notebook kept by my grandfather, Chapman H. Chilton. He was the first Superintendent of Appomattox County Schools, beginning in 1870 and serving until 1897, with the exception of the period from 1881 until 1885, when the Rev. J. B. Bristow occupied that post.

He listed the schools by District, stating that these schools were the ones established "by the first boundary." There are twenty two schools listed in the Southside District, thirteen in Stonewall, and twenty eight in Clover Hill. It is interesting that the Districts have remained the same until the present day.

Mr. Jerry A. Burke, Superintendent from 1926 until 1962 stated that as far as he knew, there is no other list of early schools in Appomattox County, as the records were burned in fires at the School Board Office and at the Courthouse.

In order to compile accurate records about the early schools, it would be worthwhile to determine the location of each of these schools if possible.

It is suggested that any person with any knowledge of where these schools were held, either from personal recollection or from local hearsay, come into the School Board office and share that knowledge. Both early and current maps will be on hand to assist in locating the approximate place where the school stood in the 1800s. If unable to come in person, a letter giving the information would be most welcome, as well as a photo, list of students, teachers, etc.

Many of the schools were designated by a family name such as Martin's, Routon's, or LeGrand's. Possibly these schools were held in a family home for the attendance of the children of the neighborhood, or located on property owned by that family. Others carry the name of a geographical location such as James River, Spout Spring, or Cherry Hill. The name that intrigues me the most is "Out of Place." It would be fascinating to collect data about how the schools got their names as well as where they were located.

It is possible that school met in the church buildings in some cases, as indicated by names such as Old Rocks Church, Promise Land or Mt. Zion. Many county residents will recognize today's church names in the list such as Tower Hill or Reedy Spring.

The last one-room school in the County was Mount Airy. It closed around 1964, thus ending an era rich in educational experience for all the children of the county.

The schools listed below and marked with an asterisk were those attended by black students.

Times and places that schools were established in South Side District by the first boundary.

*Pamplins	1871
Long Creek	1871
Bush Forest	1872
*Pamplin's	1874
*Piney Ridge	1876
Petty's Fork	1878
Salem Fork	1887
Reedy Spring	1887
Harvey's Gate	1887
*Chap	1888
*Promise Land	1884
*Bethany	1885
*Union Grove	1871
Martin's	1890
New Light	1890
Appomattox Depot	1891
Cheatham's Corner	1892
Falling River	1896
High School	1895
Glover's Shop	1884
*Chestnut Grove	1871
Hannah's	1877

Times and places that schools were established in Stonewall District by the first boundary.

Snapp's Mill	1872
Swines'	1873
Mt.Zion	1872
*Stonewall	1879
*Nebraska	1884
Routon's	1883
*Mineral	1885
Ridge, White	1888
Ridge, Colored	1888
James River	1889
Spout Spring	1892
Old Female Academy	1877
*Jordan Church	1876

Times and places that schools were established in Clover Hill District by the first boundary.

LeGrand's	1872
Tower Hill	1873
Walker's Church	1871
Oakland	1874
Hollywood	1874
Langhorne's	1875
Hardy's	1875
Wood's	1884
*Spear's	1884
Airy Hill	1872
*Morning Star	1880
Rugby	1886
Headwater	1886
Sandy Level	1890
Paradise	1890
Harmony	1893
Patteson's	1889
Out of Place	1896
Thornhill's	1896
Sam & Davy Inst.	1875
*Old Rocks Church	1884
*Cherry Hill	1873
*Canaan	1885
*Road Side	1874
*Ayers	1874
*Mt. Pleasant	1873
*Bethlehem	1875
*Gold Hill	1884

Historical Papers Donated To Appomattox Historical Society

With the Vice President Dr. Merwyn Williamson presiding in the absence of the President, Mr. Gilbert Lusk, the Appomattox County Historical Society held its regular October meeting recently.

The resignation of the President, due to a transfer of professional duties to Gettysburg National Park was accepted with regrets.

Highlight of the October meeting focused on a seven hundred dollar donation for historical research from the Woodmen of the World, donation of 1914 news articles and other documents concerning the late Congressman Henry D. Flood, and the "Birth Pangs of Appomattox County" depicted in a talk by Mr. Ron Wilson.

Mrs. Harry Clark Rucker presented the Flood news articles "to the Glory of God and to the members of the society." To her "the beauty of any possession is dependent on the degree to which it is shared with others. Any possession to precious to share is not worth having. The thing then becomes the master of the man."

Mrs. Rucker, the former Helen Nowlin, the great-granddaughter of Lawyer John Woodson whose home is one of the restored buildings at Appomattox National Park, is the daughter of the late Annie Thornhill and Albert Sidney Nowlin. Her mother, from the Hollywood area of the county, and her father, from the Oakville area, are widely related throughout the county.

The guest speaker for the evening, Ron Wilson, Historian at Appomattox Court House National Historic Park, spoke on the "Birth Pangs of Appomattox County,1845 - 1870." The speech, based on research, one by Dr. John Moore, Research Historian, University of Virginia, depicted the February 8, 1845 birthing of Appomattox County from the parent counties of Buckingham, Campbell, Prince Edward and Charlotte.

The meeting was most interesting and informative and was enjoyed by all members attending.

Completes Course With Continental Appomattox Telephone

Cecil B. Rickmond, Jr. of Appomattox, a central office repairman at the Amherst office of Continental Telephone of Virginia, has completed a course in central office equipment maintenance at the Continental Telephone System Training Center near Amherst, Virginia.

The 10-day course is designed to familiarize the student with the basic workings of a central office, which is the equipment center that routes calls to and from the local telephone exchange.

The first week of the course concentrates on instruction in basic telephone operation. This phase of training also covers safety, and customer relations.

The second week concentrates on the fundamentals of the central office switching equipment system. The student is placed in an on-the-job atmosphere where he traces calls, performs routine maintenance tests and locates troubles on central office equipment.

Rickmond has been with the Continental System since 1972.

Golden Jubilees To Present Program

The Golden Jubilees, a newly formed group, headed by Miss Tracy Jennings of Appomattox will be presented in concert on Sunday, October 31, 1976 at 3:00 P.M. at the Morning Star Baptist Church located east of Appomattox at Evergreen on highway 634.

Everyone is cordially invited to come out, hear the new group, and enjoy an afternoon of music.

ACHS Plans Open House

The Appomattox County High School will hold an Open House and Back to School Night on Monday, November 8, 1976 at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium. Ample time will be allowed for parents to meet with the faculty and administration and to tour the school. All parents and interested persons are encouraged to make plans to attend this important school function.

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Ginny Jones and Marla Garrett are proud to help Big Bird and Oscar tour the Appomattox Primary School.

"Big Bird and Oscar first came to Appomattox under the sponsorship of the Primary School PTA. With Bert and Ernie, they participated in the Railroad Festival. The young ones they saw during the week end must have prompted them to spread a little joy on a rainy day by visiting all classes at the Primary School.

Adults might wonder who these people are, but to thousands of children, they are dear friends. Each morning many school children view "Sesame Street", where these characters bound through the alphabet, jump among numbers and leap over basic concepts.

"Sesame Street" is one part of Instructional Television (ITV) in Virginia. ITV is used by many Appomattox teachers as an effective instructional tool. The programs our children view contribute to the improvement of the quality of education here. Appomattox teachers are not being replaced by television, but are using television to assist in special ways. A music teacher teaches music theory and fun songs; an art teacher demonstrates a different technique and discusses form and color; a language arts teacher demonstrates different ways to communicate - all on ITV. The classroom teacher then can carry out a project suggested by the TV lesson, or incorporate the lesson into her plans.

We know that television can remove walls and bring the world to the student. We are aware of its potential as a motivational and creative tool. Research proves that it accelerates the professional growth of teachers and contributes to learning in the classroom. We seek continuously to strive for quality programming and to demonstrate proper use of this medium." (Mrs. Ida J. Hill, Director of School Services, Central Virginia Educational Television.)

APS students enjoy many ITV programs, but Big Bird, and Oscar definitely have high ratings!

WRECK ISLAND EXTENSION HOMEMAKERS CLUB

Members of the Wreck Island Extension Homemaker's Club met on Wednesday, October 20th at 10:30 a.m. in the home of Mrs. Rose Burnett for a covered dish lunch.

One new member, Mrs. Virginia Beard was welcomed to the club.

Devotions and prayer were given by Mrs. Rose Burnett.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The Homemaker's Creed was repeated.

Mrs. Dixie Staten presided at the business meeting. She read a letter from Shirley Walton of following meetings and dates: On Oct.25 - 29 "Holiday Sampler Open House" to be held at the Extension Office from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily and 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday nights. Our club will be hostess on Tuesday night, Oct. 26th from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. November 6th at 1:30 p.m. Achievement Day at Appomattox County High School.

Mrs. Edna Fulton exhibited at the 5-county fair, Farmville, Va. winning 4th place on a bicentennial cap.

Mrs. Tilden Lee won 7 ribbons at Virginia State Fair in Richmond on canning exhibits and sewing, 4 blue, 2 red and 1 white ribbon.

The slate of officers for 1977 are President - Mrs. Dixie Staten, Vice President - Mrs. Elsie Thornhill, Secretary & Treasurer - Mrs. Tilden Lee, Federation Goal Leader - Mrs. Ruth Carson, Program Topics Leader - Mrs. Elsie Thornhill.

Our Federation Goal Leader, Mrs. Ruth Carson gave an interesting program on "Quilts" Quilts was a popular social event for women, a chance to get together, taste each others choice dishes, swap receipes, and catch up on all the late news of the neighborhood. Making a quilt is a long-term process, the piecing and appliquing, the fitting together or padding, lining and top, and finally the quilting. As part of the program members viewed on T.V. the quilt that the faculty wives of V.P.I. had made.

Mrs. Dixie Staten gave the demonstration on "Holiday Arrangements". She showed us how to make a candle of honey-comb wax.

Mrs. Ruth Mitchell returned thanks for the food after which members enjoyed a delicious lunch they had prepared.

The November meeting will meet on Wednesday November 17th at 1:30 p.m. in the home of Mrs. Louise Lawson.

Mrs. Tilden Lee
Secretary

Planting A Home Garden?

By Elmore Jordan
Extension Agent

Would you work without knowing what you were going to get paid? Why, then, plant a home garden this spring without knowing what your home garden plot will need as far as lime and fertilizer is concerned.

Ask any profitable farmer what he does before he plants anything and the first statement he will make is - - "I get a soil sample to the County Extension Office . . . so I can make a knowledgeable decision on what to add in the form of nutrients to the soil for healthy, viable plants.

It's time now for soil samples to be taken to determine what you need to add to your soil as far as lime and fertilizer is concerned. It's time to plow up that parcel of land after the lime is added to let the lime work its way down into the soil.

Also, plowing will expose many harmful organisms to freezing. A good idea also is to plant a cover crop on your garden spot/plot to add additional organic matter. In the spring, this can be plowed under.

Gardening provides many opportunities to the family and a low cost source for fresh produce and stored produce whether dried, canned or frozen. A common bond is formed in the family unit as there is enough work usually to involve all members. The whole family can plan the garden and each have his own special project within the family garden. Gardening is a source of recreation that is difficult to find elsewhere. The educational value of seeing and taking part in such an activity is an experience that many people never forget. Today even, it is not unlikely to hear parents talk of their experiences concerning the home garden.

Therefore, if we are going to put so much effort into growing a home garden, let's take that soil sample right how. You may obtain soil sample boxes and instructions from the county extension office or see the display at Wilbun's Market in Appomatox, Va. Since Oct. 1, 1975, 685 soil sample shave been processed through the extension office. However, only 49 or 8% of the total was for gardening. Additionally, most of the farms submitting soil samples had home gardens that would be planted.

MISS JORDAN'S 4-H MEETING

The meeting was called to order by our new president, Glen McClenny. The secretary read the minutes and they were approved. Mr. Sweet and Mr. Goldman told us about new project books. The meeting was adjourned.

Norman Walker, Reporter

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